

DISCUSS OYSTERS AND PROHIBITION

(Continued From First Page.)

before both the Senate and House Committees on Privileges and Elections. In the morning the hearing was held in the Senate chamber. Nowhere near all those who wanted to speak could be heard, and adjournment was held until 3:30, when the meeting was resumed in the House chamber. The halls were crowded on both occasions. Governor Mann was an interested spectator of the afternoon proceedings in the gallery, and many women were present.

May Conclude To-Night.

This hearing will be resumed to-night in the courtroom of the State Corporation Commission, it being the impression that the debate will then be concluded.

The strongest speeches made for the bill were by Senator Strode, its patron, and by Rev. J. D. McAllister, of the Anti-Saloon League. Other speakers on the same side were Mr. Myers, patron of the House bill; Rev. G. W. Thompson and George W. Ray, of Norfolk; Frank Tabbutt, of Danville; ex-Senator Thomas, of Lynchburg; Dr. Wellford, of Newport News, and Dr. R. H. Bennett, of Lynchburg.

Opposing the bill were A. A. Proffitt, Mr. Williams and Captain Patterson, of Alexandria; James C. Grainger, representing the labor union; J. H. Richmond, Allen Jones, of Newport News; Maurice Powers, of Richmond, representing the Personal Liberty League; W. T. Dabney and W. H. Zimmerman, of Richmond.

SENATE

Prayer by Rev. J. J. Scherer opened the session of the Senate.

Several prohibition petitions were received. Petitioned also received from the the National Union, of Richmond, and Manchester, protesting against the passage of the Rison divorce bill.

Senator Halsey thought the joint resolution agreeing to the proposed income tax amendment to the Constitution of the United States ought to be placed among the third reading Senate bills on the calendar because a joint resolution does not have to be read three times, but President Ellison ruled that the resolution must stay where it is among the reading bills.

The Senate agreed to a joint resolution of the House fixing the election of civil justices for Richmond and Norfolk at 1:50 o'clock, and the confirmation of the nomination of J. Richard Wingfield to the State Corporation Commission at 2 o'clock.

When the tax commission bill came up as the special order of the day, Senator Sims wished to amend the bill, as to make the pay of the financial expert \$2,500 a month. It was of extreme importance to get an exceedingly capable man for this position, for he will have more time to work than the members of the commission.

Not a Mere Clerk. The work of the commission, he pointed out, would affect every citizen, and every material interest of the State. It will bear on the prosperity and happiness of generations to come. It is, therefore, a man who must be an exceptionally able expert, who must be cognizant of the theories and practice of other States. He should be a man "of the highest calibre," not a mere clerk or secretary.

The salary of \$300 per month provided in the Holland amendment would be, he thought, insufficient to secure such a man. It would be the poorest economy to be pennywise with regard to the expert's salary.

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Cited California. The patron of the bill, Senator King, said that he had been to California, and that he had seen the experience of other States might prove a proper guide. California, which has wrought such magnificent results from a commission, pays her expert only \$250 per month. In that State the general taxes have been lowered, after the work of a commission of three men, and yet the revenue of California might increase \$2,000,000. Virginia might try this scheme.

Agreeing largely with Senator King, Senator Strode told of the fate of previous tax commission bills. In 1906 there had been proposed a legislative committee to make a study of the tax system, and it was killed by a vote of 2 to 1. Those who advocated the amendment were in the minority, and they were opposed on any ground. In 1908 the tax commission bill had gone through the House, but had been unable to get through the Senate.

The most pointed out a lesson, said he, which justifies taking up the bill and passing it at the present session. The General Assembly would not have been in the position it is in now in regard to taxes if there had been created before this a tax commission, but would be in position to go ahead with telling results.

Twelve States, said Senator Strode, have tried the tax commission scheme. They have been able in this way to readjust their taxation systems, resulting in a saving of \$100,000,000.

Senator Holland declared that he

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To convince every sufferer from diseases of the kidneys, liver, bladder and blood that WARNER'S SAFE CURE will cure them, a sample bottle and a sample box of Warner's Safe Pills will be sent FREE OF CHARGE, postpaid, to any one who will write WARNER'S SAFE CURE CO., Rochester, N. Y., and mention having seen this liberal offer in the Richmond Times-Dispatch.

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ing in decreasing the general tax rate of the States and at the same time increasing their own market value. The bill is a composite of his views and those of Senator King.

No Objection to Governor.

Taking up the Holland amendment, he said that he was not in favor of it. He had no criticism to pass upon the proposition to have the Governor serve on the tax commission. The Governor is a person detached from other departments.

"It is a fundamental error, though," he declared, "to put on the commission a member of a body whose work is to increase the tax rate of the State. The duty of the tax commission is to review the tax system, and to make recommendations to the Governor. It is not to be a body of men who will increase the tax rate of the State."

Senator Strode went on to say that he did not like the idea of putting a man on the tax commission who would be in a position to ratify the acts of that body, especially when they have assessed the physical property of railroads at 25 per cent. He thought that the commission should be a body of men who would be able to make a fair assessment, and who would be able to carry that out without being influenced by the railroads.

After a man had put himself on record as considering that a fair assessment, he would be liable to carry that out without being influenced by the railroads. He thought that the commission should be a body of men who would be able to make a fair assessment, and who would be able to carry that out without being influenced by the railroads.

There is no objection, in his view, to a tax commission composed of members of the General Assembly. Payment to such members of the usual salary of the General Assembly would be a constitutional question of double compensation.

Kezell's Views. Senator Kezell desired to strike out the provision in the bill making the chairman of the House Finance Committee ex-officio members of the commission. He thought that such limitation should be put on the appointive power.

He felt that the commission should be one that would do work and do it well. He doubted the wisdom of putting the Governor on the commission, on account of his multitudinous duties, and he thought the same objection held in the case of the chairman of the State Corporation Commission. As to the expert, he would be a most valuable man, and he must be relied upon to get the greater part of the information from the various parts of the State and from other States.

Criticizes the Commission. "I agree with Senator Strode as to the wisdom of placing the chairman of the House Finance Committee on this tax commission," said Senator Kezell with great emphasis. "The commission will control the corporation tax, with almost a veto power. It has controlled this power in the interest of corporations rather than in the interest of the people. When I take up the record and find that the great public service corporations have been assessed at less than five per cent of the value of their physical properties, then I am strained to say that a commission that intervenes between the people and the State Board of Examiners, the commission on the face of the bill should have one of its members on the tax commission."

Taking up the figures in the case, he demonstrated that the taxes now paid by railroads in the State are about one-sixth of the market value. He pointed out that the taxes on the other side of the coin were being paid by the people. He said that the taxes on the other side of the coin were being paid by the people.

Senator Kezell, "I think the time has come to take up in open court. Let the people know that if the State Corporation Commission is properly taxed the physical properties of the great public service corporations, the General Assembly would not now be raising assessments and looking around for new subjects to tax. These are the plain facts."

Senator Holland declared that he

wished a tax commission by all means. If he could not get the kind of a commission he wanted, he would put his shoulder to the wheel and work for some other one. He would never be satisfied until the State had some form of taxation, but that was not a practical plan now, because there is not enough information at hand.

He continued his opposition to a commission composed of members of the General Assembly.

It was not his intention to insist on having the chairman of the State Corporation Commission on the tax commission. He said that he had no objection to the chairman of the State Corporation Commission, why the bill should be amended to provide for the confirmation of that officer.

Senator Kezell quickly replied that he was not personal in his reference to the chairman of the commission. He meant the commission as a body.

"They are public functionaries," said he, "and as a citizen, I have the right to criticize their acts."

Senator Holland renewed his remarks, saying that he thought the commission was unjust. The commission has brought the income tax to the State Treasury. To the best of his ability, they were performing their duty. The question of whether the physical properties of the public service corporations had been properly taxed was a matter of opinion.

He should be paid the expert on the commission, Senator Sims pointed out that he only desired to have the commission unhampered and unbound by a petty financial question of the expert's salary.

Though disclaiming that he held "a brief for the State Corporation Commission," he said that he had no objection to the chairman of the State Corporation Commission, why the bill should be amended to provide for the confirmation of that officer.

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After the Senate had met the House in joint session to confirm the nomination of J. Richard Wingfield as a member of the State Corporation Commission, it returned to the bill, and the Senate adjourned on motion of Senator Early at 2:35.

HOUSE

The Committee on Counties, Cities and Towns drew the South Boston and Houston dispensary bills when measures, which had passed the Senate, were reported to the House yesterday.

The insurance bill went to the Committee on Finance. It was decided to elect civil justices for the cities of Richmond and Norfolk at 1:50. The latter city has such an officer for the first time, a recent bill having extended the matter to Norfolk.

The bill prohibiting any one from serving as a director of a corporation unless a resident of the district came up as unfinished business on its second reading. Mr. Love resumed the floor.

He wanted, he said, to prohibit the State Board of Education from tramping on the rights of the people. No such body he said should be empowered to put a man in the best office of a county without regard to the wishes of the people. This was, he argued, the most preposterous position a free people was ever placed in.

Should Be Resident. Mr. Love called attention to the fact that if any officer moves away from a county he vacates his office, and to be eligible a candidate must be a resident. He urged that the State Board be required to bring a man in from the outside.

He had heard the argument that the dairymen had no appeal. The people, he said, had no appeal from the decisions of the State Board of Education. He asked of the recent educational conference in Richmond, saying that as the members of the board were not the members of the board, when he pulled the string, the State Board pulled the strings and the teachers jump.

The president of the University of Virginia, in his address at the meeting, had voiced the keynote as co-operation. They had co-operated, for when Judge Williams had introduced his resolution early in the session to look into the advisability of abolishing the State Board of Examiners, the co-operation became evident.

Indignation Meeting. Mr. Roberts said that when the superintendent in his county of Mecklenburg had been named from another section, the people held an indignation meeting, feeling that such action was a reflection on the county. He thought the Love amendment, so that the bill would not affect the superintendent already in office, but would tend to show the State Board that the people do not want it to continue such a policy.

The remarkable work done by the educational forces of the State under the present State Superintendent, said Mr. Cooke, cannot be denied. The public schools, he argued, were one of the most important matters for the consideration of Virginia. While he thought the board ought to listen to local recommendations if it could find the man he asked if there was a general desire for such a change or if there was only a sporadic case.

Mr. Oliver said he was surprised that so many representative Virginians opposed the principle of local self-government. He was unable to find any other case in this State where a man who was a non-resident could hold an office. He believed that every county has at least one man qualified for this position.

Need Practical Men. The qualification of a superintendent, said Mr. West, of Nansemond, did not lie alone in a college education. He should be a man of executive ability, in touch with the people, and with the practical men. He thought harmony and effective work could not be secured if a man was sent from another county over the protest of the people.

This particular bill amounts to nothing, said Mr. Williams, of Giles. It cannot affect the superintendent who have been already elected for four years, and whose terms will not expire until after the adjournment of the Legislature of 1912. That body could, in the light of developments, amend this bill, and it would accomplish anything at all. But it is a mere effort to bring a bill before the House.

Extolling the effective educational work in this State in recent years, he said that the State Board of Education, he said, was composed of men of the highest type, when compared with those of any other State. He thought that the State Board of Education was one of the most important and successful departments of the State government.

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CONSTIPATION

Judge Williams said it was not right to slap the board in the face with this bill. The Democrats of Virginia have made this condition. He urged the legislature to say the work for two years, which it would have to do anyway before passing any such measure. If the principle prevailed, he said, which was embodied in the bill, Dr. Alderman would not have been president of the University of Virginia, for he was secured from outside of the State.

Wipe Out County. Mr. Fitzhugh said that if a county has no man at it to hold this office, it ought to be wiped out the map. He appealed for local rule.

Speaking but for a few minutes, Mr. Page said that sometimes a man goes out of his county for one who is much nearer to his child than is a school superintendent, but that should not be held to make her less competent to care for the child. Supposing, he said, good men in a county cannot be secured, what is the board to do under this bill. Thomas Jefferson, he argued, went all over the world to get men. He urged the defeat of the bill.

He Throckmorton's resolution changing the bill so that the board should not go outside of a county unless no suitable man could be secured, was lost. The amendment of Mr. Love, that it should not affect present appointees, was carried.

The question then being on the endorsement of the bill, Mr. Yarrell said the superintendent ought to be a county man.

Bill Is Passed. The bill was ordered to be engrossed, put upon its passage and passed by a vote of 70 to 16, most of those regarded as leaders in thought voting in the negative.

It was agreed that the houses should meet in joint session at 2 o'clock to act on the confirmation of a member of the State Corporation Commission.

The House agreed to the conference on the bonds bill allowing counties to issue bonds for public improvements, which provided that the election may be called upon petition of 150 freeholders by a vote of 71 to 8.

By a vote of 56 to 6 the House also agreed to the conference report on the bill relating to the pay of land assessors, which was that boards of supervisors may in their discretion increase the per diem from county funds not less than \$1 nor more than \$3 per day.

This meant that the House had won its fight with the Senate over this bill, the upper body having tried to make this payment compulsory.

The hour having arrived for the election of civil justices, Mr. Curtis nominated William Miles Turpin to this position for the city of Richmond. He said that Judge Turpin was born in this city, and has distinguished himself here. He had satisfactorily filled the office for the past two years.

Mr. Wingo, seconding the nomination, said the nominee had discharged the duties of the office to the satisfaction of the people. The nomination was also seconded by Mr. Casey and Mr. Harwood.

Mr. Cooke nominated James U. Goode for the corresponding position in Norfolk. He said he was the son of "Honest John Goode," which speaks volumes. Mr. Deal seconded the nomination.

Upon roll call the nominees were elected. The Senate came to the House chamber, and without opposition, in a session lasting only a few moments, J. Richard Wingfield was confirmed in the position of member of the State Corporation Commission upon appointment of Governor Mann.

Senate Bills

By Mr. Wickham: A bill to empower the board of visitors of Lee Camp Soldiers' Home to take into its possession the money and personal effects found in said home belonging to the county of Fauquier, and to dispose of the same where no claim is made therefor within one year by any person entitled thereto.

By Mr. Hart: A bill to provide for the recording of copies of certain papers from the records of the United States courts in bankruptcy proceedings; their effect, evidence and the fees which may be charged by clerks for certain services in connection therewith.

By Mr. Aiken: A bill to amend and re-enact section 10 of an act entitled an act to raise revenue for the support of the government, and to provide for the payment of the interest on the public debt, and to provide a special tax for pensions, as authorized by section 10 of the Constitution, approved April 18, 1905, as amended by an act approved February 19, 1904, as amended by an act approved January 21, 1903.

By Mr. Fitzhugh: A bill to amend and re-enact an act entitled an act to create a road board for the county of Fauquier, and to provide for the working of the roads of said county, approved April 18, 1905, as amended by an act approved March 14, 1906, and as further amended by an act approved March 14, 1906.

By Mr. Gayle: A bill to authorize Alabar and Buckingham counties to purchase the toll bridge across James River, at Howardsville, and to maintain and operate the same as a free bridge, and to issue bonds for that purpose.

By Mr. Leamer: A bill to amend and re-enact an act entitled an act for dividing lower Norfolk county, approved April 18, 1905, as amended and re-enacted by an act entitled an act for enlarging the bounds of Princess Anne county, approved April 18, 1905, as amended and re-enacted by an act approved March 14, 1906, and as further amended by an act approved March 14, 1906.

By Mr. Early: A bill to amend and re-enact section 7 of an act entitled an act concerning the governing of incorporated corporations, approved January 18, 1901.

By Mr. Ward: A bill to protect and advance agricultural lingo and the sale and use of condition upon which they are to be sold, and fixing the penalty incurred for violation of such condition.

By Mr. Owen: A bill to require manufacturers, barbers and dealers in soft drinks to pay a license tax.

By Mr. Dunne: A bill to amend and re-enact section 68 of the Code of Virginia, as amended by an act approved March 14, 1906, in relation to lists of property, etc., and to provide for the recording of copies of certain papers from the records of the United States courts in bankruptcy proceedings; their effect, evidence and the fees which may be charged by clerks for certain services in connection therewith.

By Mr. Stubb: A bill to provide artificial

limbs for citizens of the Commonwealth who lost their limbs during the War Between the States, and whose names are upon the pension roll.

By Mr. Stubb: A bill to provide pensions to an authorized list of colored men who served in the Confederate Army and were loyal throughout the war.

By Mr. Stubb: A bill to aid in the semi-centennial anniversary of the battle of Bethel June 10, 1911.

To Committee on Schools and Colleges. By Mr. West: A bill to amend and re-enact an act for the better government of appropriations to the several institutions of learning in the State of Virginia, as amended and re-enacted by an act approved March 14, 1906, and as further amended by an act approved March 14, 1906.

By Mr. Johnston, of Montgomery: A bill providing that fines imposed by certain magistrates shall be imposed, distributed and paid by the State law when the amount of the fine fixed by the State law equals or exceeds that fixed by city ordinances.

By Mr. Dunn: A bill to amend and re-enact section 38 of the Code of Virginia, as amended and re-enacted by an act approved March 14, 1906, and as further amended by an act approved March 14, 1906.

To Committee on General Laws. By Messrs. Harwood and Myers: A bill to amend and re-enact section 85 of the Code of Virginia, as amended and re-enacted by an act approved December 8, 1903, in relation to appointment of coroners.

By Messrs. Harwood and Myers: A bill to amend and re-enact section 323 of the Code of Virginia in relation to duties of a coroner.

By Mrs. Throckmorton: A bill providing for the condemnation by cities and towns of abandoned or unused and neglected burying grounds wholly or partly within the limits of such cities and towns, and making disposition of the remains interred in such burying grounds.

To Committee on Chesapeake and Its Tributaries. By Messrs. Nolting, Lion and Curtis: A bill to allow any resident, person, corporation or association of persons to acquire capital in the development of the clam, terrapin, oyster or other shell fish industries of this State.

To Committee on Roads and Internal Navigation. By Messrs. Lion and Stebbins: A bill relating to the carriage of baggage by railroad corporations.

To Committee on Agriculture and Mining. By Messrs. Talaferr, Nolting and Robinson: A bill to create a state agricultural registration board for the State of Virginia.

To Committee for Courts of Justice. By Mr. Byrd: A bill to amend section 359 of the Code of Virginia in regard to corporation courts of cities of the first and second class.

By Mr. Cooke: A bill to prohibit the taking of the original papers in any pending case from the clerk's office of the courts of the Commonwealth.

By Mr. Stebbins: A bill to provide for the recording of copies of certain papers from the records of the United States courts in bankruptcy proceedings; their effect, evidence and the fees which may be charged by clerks for certain services in connection therewith.

By Mr. White: A bill to provide for the appointment of court stenographers by the clerk and corporation of courts, and provide for their compensation.

By Mr. White: A bill to provide compensation for the clerks of the courts of the Commonwealth for recording and disbursing funds placed in their hands to be held subject to the order of court.

To Joint Committee on Special, Private and Local Legislation. By Mr. Price: A bill to amend and re-enact an act entitled an act to create a road board for the county of Fauquier, and to provide for the working of the roads of said county, approved March 8, 1904, as amended and re-enacted by an act approved March 14, 1906.

By Mr. Silvester: A bill to amend and re-enact an act entitled an act for dividing lower Norfolk county, approved April 18, 1905, as amended and re-enacted by an act approved April 18, 1905, as amended and re-enacted by an act approved April 18, 1905.

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enacted by an act approved March 14, 1906, and as further amended by an act approved March 14, 1906, and as further amended by an act approved March 14, 1906.

By Mr. Williams, of Giles: A bill providing for the issue of bonds for the reconstruction of two iron bridges across New River, in Giles county.

By Mr. Baum: A bill to have the treasurer of Princess Anne county sit regularly at the county seat.

By Mr. Yarrell: A bill to provide for the building, working and repairing of the public roads of Sussex county, and to authorize any magisterial district therein to borrow money and to issue bonds for the purpose of building said roads, and to provide for the payment of such bonds and the interest to accrue thereon.

By Mr. Williams, of Southampton: A bill to amend and re-enact sections 2, 4, 5, 6 of an act approved November 2, 1884, entitled an act to incorporate the town of Boykins, in the county of Southampton, and to amend and re-enacted by an act approved February 6, 1895, and amended by an act approved December 12, 1901.

By Mr. Williams, of Southampton: A bill changing Jerusalem District to Courtland District, and changing the name of the town of Jerusalem to Courtland.

By Mr. Cooke: A bill to amend and re-enact section 1 and 2 of an act entitled an act to regulate and restrict shooting and to prevent the destruction of wild fowl in the waters of Back Bay and its tributaries, in the county of Princess Anne, approved March 1, 1904, as amended and re-enacted by an act approved March 12, 1905.

By Mr. Silvester: A bill to amend and re-enact an act entitled an act for dividing lower Norfolk county, approved April 18, 1905, as amended and re-enacted by an act approved April 18, 1905, as amended and re-enacted by an act approved April 18, 1905.

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